



Tom Barrett
Mayor, City of Milwaukee

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Contact: Eileen Force
(414)286-8504

BARRETT NAMES PAULA A. KIELY TO TOP POST AT MILWAUKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM

MILWAUKEE (September 15, 2006) – Mayor Tom Barrett has appointed Paula A. Kiely to the position of City Librarian of the Milwaukee Public Library System. Kiely's appointment is expected to go before the full Common Council on September 26. Kiely will succeed Kathleen M. Huston who retired in July.

“Along with strong professional expertise, Kiely brings a demonstrated dedication to the Milwaukee library system and commitment to serving the residents of our great city,” said Barrett. “As we continue to manage limited resources and move our library system forward in the 21st century, Paula's leadership will have a great impact on the delivery of information services to the public.”

Kiely joined the Milwaukee Public Library in 1995 and served as a librarian at Zablocki and Martin Luther King neighborhood libraries and the Central Library Betty Brinn Children's Room before becoming coordinator of children's services in 1998. As Children's Coordinator she created and developed the award-winning Books2Go program, which develops reading readiness skills in preschool children through outreach to child care facilities and training of child care providers.

Since May 2000 she has served as Manager of Central Library Services, a position responsible for the planning, development and implementation of library service at the Central Library. During her tenure she established the COMPASS Guide initiative including the successful “Life after High School” workshops.

A native of Milwaukee, Kiely is a graduate of Bay View High School. She studied at both UW-Stevens Point and UW-Milwaukee, where she received a bachelor's degree in fine art. She began her career in librarianship at Brookfield Public Library after receiving her master's degree in library science from UW-Milwaukee in 1992.

A member of the American, Public and Wisconsin Library Associations, Kiely is also part of the Westtown Community Economic Development Committee and was named “Graduate of the Decade” by the UW-Milwaukee School of Information Studies in 2002.